

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, NOV. 3, 1864.

GOES UP.—Our readers will be sorry to see the news from Plymouth, N. C., received Tuesday by telegraph. We are in hope that our people lost few prisoners and little material.

We looked for the fall of Plymouth after the Yankees had succeeded in blowing up the Albemarle. Our force there was no doubt small on land, and of course perfectly insignificant on water. Somehow, we doubt whether the people of that section of the State have felt any confidence in our ability to hold Plymouth and the lower Roanoke country, and hence their indisposition to take any active part in favour of the Confederate cause.

We may expect at any day to hear of an attack being made upon the town of Washington, Beaufort co., or the Pamlico. In truth, that unfortunate town is pretty much ruined already, and can't be much more injured even by Yankee barbarism and spite.

SINKING OF THE ALBEMARLE.

A few days since a report reached here that the Roanoke iron-clad gunboat, the Albemarle, which played quite an important part in the capture of Plymouth, had sunk at her station in the river. Although we had this report, however, it came in such a "questionable shape" that we felt unwilling to use it without more definite information. The Goldsboro "State Journal" of Tuesday morning contains a statement of the affair from which we learn that about 2 o'clock on Friday morning, the weather being very dark and stormy, eleven officers of the Yankee Navy, in a torpedo boat, ran against the Albemarle, then lying at her wharf at Plymouth; the second attempt was successful—the torpedo exploded against the Albemarle's bow, staving it in, and causing the ship to go down in a few minutes as far as the depth or shallowness of the water would permit.

The Yankees on their way up the river had captured a Confederate picket on board the Yankee steamer Southfield, partially sunk by the Albemarle during the attack on Plymouth some months ago. The Yankee party was also captured. More serious than even this is the fall of Plymouth itself, which will be found in our telegraphic column.

It is not impossible that some of the fleet of which a good deal has been said as likely to come here, have gone up the Eno or Sounds of the State with the view of re-establishing Yankee superiority in Albemarle, Pamlico and Roanoke Sounds. Their large double-ends could not come through the Albemarle and Chesapeake Navigation from Norfolk, more on account of their length than their depth. They would have to go in at Hatteras Inlet.

Plymouth is 150 miles north-east of Raleigh, and probably had twelve to fifteen hundred inhabitants at the outbreak of hostilities.

The Bermudian papers comment very severely upon the course of the Colonial authorities towards the regularly commissioned officers of the Confederate prizemaster Roanoke, Captain BRAIN and his officers and men having been arrested at St. George's, and compelled to spend three nights in a British prison on a charge admitted to be untenable, and bail refused. This course has been pursued at the instigation and demand of the Federal authorities. A correspondent of the Bermuda "Advocate" of the 12th says that "England was never so low in the eyes of foreign powers as she is at the present time," said a most distinguished statesman during the late celebrated Danish debate in the House of Commons. This disagreeable truth we are reluctantly compelled to admit, and so long as the Governors of British Colonies act in the same manner as the present Governor of Bermuda has done, England will remain "low" in the eyes of the world. The short-sighted policy of such Governors tend more to places England in positions wherein she loses respect, than any act, however flagrant, that might be committed by the home government."

The correspondent goes on to say that "the day is not far distant when England will be repaid tenfold for the pusillanimous part she has acted since the commencement of this war."

Another correspondent takes the Attorney General to task in a scathing article.

ALL HALLOWS.—We write on Thursday, November 1st, being the day known as All Hallows, the night before being Halloween, or snap apple night, quite a time in Ireland and Scotland, as any one may learn from Burns' poems or Macbeth's pictures, one of which, entitled "Scap-Apple Night," contains as much humor and expression and as many figures as almost any mad man painting.

The season is progressing and the leaves are falling everywhere under the effect of the chilly nights and mornings, especially the mornings, which are as raw as there can be any necessity for, even for the purpose of driving out contagion.

Some doubts have been expressed in regard to the day on which the Presidential election will be held at the North, but for this we see no reason. That election will be held, not on the first Tuesday in November, but on the first Tuesday after the first Monday, which will bring it on the 8th instant. We don't think it can make much difference at any rate, as Mr. Lincoln will be apt to make sure of his own election and even if General McCLELLAN should happen to be elected by some miracle, we hardly see how it would make things any better or worse for the Confederacy. He is restoring the old Union at any and every cost of life and treasure, making reconstruction the indispensable condition precedent to the conclusion of any terms of peace with the South. Lincoln could not, much more or less, save that he insists, or pretends to insist, upon the additional condition of emancipation, which he would probably be willing to dispense with for the present if he could wheel the South back into the Federal Union.

A CONTEMPORARY with a good show of reason, expresses regret over the Asiatic pomp and luxury of the Yankee camp, which tends not only to the moral degradation of their own men, but very seriously affects ours, diverting them from the main object and leading to plunder, and at times causing them to get whipped after having substantially gained the day. The fact is that our men stopped to plunder the Yankee camp at Cedar Creek, giving the enemy a chance to turn round upon us, and wrest the substantial fruits of victory from our grasp; after it might have been said to have been secured. Such was also notorious the case at the battle of Corinth.

The result of the election recently held in Maryland to decide for or against the adoption of the free negro constitution, submitted to the people of that State by their abolition masters, goes to show that after all Maryland is at heart a Southern State, since all the Counties that are really occupied by *black* Marylanders have gone against the Yankee constitution, and, indeed, it would seem that in spite of Yankee squatters in Baltimore and in the Northwestern part of the State, Maryland as a whole has gone against the Yankees.

SOMEBODY enquires of us what Blue Stone is. We believe it is sulphate of copper. We presume it is used for soaking wheat to prevent "smut."

The Salisbury Watchman learns that General J. G. MARTIN has been ordered to make his headquarters at that place, and that he will probably move in a day or two.

COONSPORT.—Instead of Mulberry Street, in our fire article yesterday, read Nun Street. The fire was on Nun and Second Street.

THE LIGHT AROUND RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG.

The Richmond "Enquirer" of the 28th inst. says: "At an early hour yesterday morning a movement in force upon our works was developed by the enemy on the lines below Richmond, and on the right of our line before Petersburg. During the previous night the enemy had made extensive preparatory manœuvres, and, it is said, had received heavy reinforcements. So far as it may, the enemy began below Richmond by making some demonstrations against our right, bringing about a heavy cannonade, which was intermingled some time after with considerable skirmishing. The enemy made no determined attack upon our front, but seemed to be simply testing the strength of our line. They continued to move out to the right, however, upon a line parallel to our own, skirmishing occasionally along our exterior line, but making no impression. Upon reaching the vicinity of the junction of the Nine-mile road with the Williamsburg turnpike, they made several efforts to break our line, but were repulsed with considerable loss. The cannonade continued during nearly the entire day. The principal fighting occurred on the Williamsburg and Nine-mile roads, some seven or eight miles from the city. Our losses were very slight. The firing ceased about six o'clock in the evening."

With respect to the American question, the London Times says:—

"It would really seem as if there began to be a probability of our seeing the end of the American civil war. Unlike the check red and balanced course of events which we have hitherto had, so record, in which the success of one side was almost sure to be counterbalanced by an equivalent success on the other, the late events seem to go all one way. The military progress of the North appear to be declining, while at the same time we remark a new and startling manifestation of the strength of the opinion which has arisen in favor of peace."

Under these circumstances, political men are obliged to take indications as they can get, and must generally steer their course by the last authentic declaration of public opinion. Thus there was no doubt that, on the news of the taking of Fort Sumter, the general feeling of the Northern Democracy was all for war. The national pride was wounded, the national honour was believed to be at stake; and without counting the cost, without examining our own resources and those of our antagonists, the North plunged into the frightful conflict which has lasted ever since.

"It is aspired, very curiously, that all these clever politicians have fouled themselves in the wrong. The Republicans would have preferred much better if they had not so outrageously overreached a desire for war and banded, and a contempt for the very institutions they were endeavoring to preserve; and the Democrats would have saved their own party much unnecessary disgrace, and greatly accelerated the inevitable reaction against the violence of their antagonists, if they had been a little bolder in the expression of their own opinion, or rather a little less servile in supporting it. The time has at last come when the average people are called upon to express an opinion, and it seems pretty nearly agreed on all hands that this opinion will reverse the view of 1861."

It is only just to say that Americans appear to be coming to a knowledge as they have acquired to the best account. With extraordinary audacity, the Valley, official news comes of an attack by Mobley upon a heavily guarded wagon train of the enemy at Bonker Hill, in which, though unable to bring off any booty, on account of the heavy guard which attended it, he killed one general, captured and killed various others, and made good his retreat.

POSITION IN EAST TENNESSEE.

Official intelligence from the front has reached here, to the effect that a party from General Vaughn's command got into the rear of the enemy, and burnt the bridge at the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad at Moes Creek on the night of the 16th. On the morning of the 17th, about two o'clock, the enemy evacuated their strong position at Bull's Gap, retreating in the direction of Knoxville. At last accounts, Gen. Vaughn was pursuing them and with the obstruction to their retreat which were the result of his admirable strategy, it is highly probable that he will overtake them. He has thus far met with success fully at every point, and we have all faith in his ability, if not so dangerous in winter, than in summer. What ever their design was, whether as a "feeler" or as the beginning of a grand assault, it was a costly and a useless enterprise.

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